

**SINGLE NUCLEOTIDE POLYMORPHISMS AND MUTATIONS ON
ALPHA-2-MACROGLOBULIN**

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ABSTRACT

The present invention is related to the discovery of several single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and/or mutations in the Alpha-2-Macroglobulin gene (*A2M*), which are risk factors for Alzheimer's Disease (AD). More specifically, aspects of the invention concern nucleic acids corresponding to the *A2M* gene or fragments thereof, which contain one or more of the SNPs and/or mutations described herein, peptides or proteins encoded by said nucleic acids, antibodies to said peptides or proteins and methods of making said compositions, diagnostic methods, methods of data analysis, and pharmaceutical discovery and preparation methods.

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